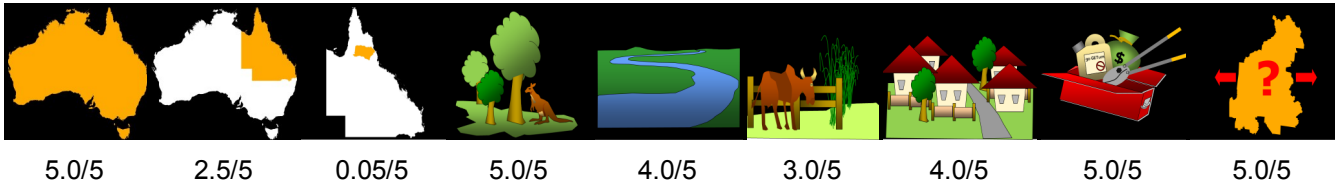


Miconia *Miconia calvescens*

National priority State priority Previous local Conservation Water resources Agriculture and industry Community and residential Feasibility of control Current extent



Priority

Details

Description A tree up to 15m tall with large leaves up to 70cm long. The underside of the leaves is a distinct iridescent purple. Miconia produces clusters of small, white flowers followed by red/purple berries.

Distribution Miconia was first detected in the Tablelands region in 2004 where it was introduced as a garden plant in a range of locations. It is known only in the Upper Beatrice, Dirran, Millaa Millaa and Mungalli areas.

Impacts Miconia can produce thousands of berries every year that are attractive to birds and spread long distances. It can form dense thickets in rainforest, potentially replacing native plants and affecting agricultural landscapes and wildlife populations.

Key projects Miconia is a target of the National Tropical Weeds Eradication Program led by Biosecurity Queensland. All plants should be immediately reported to Biosecurity Queensland on 13 25 23. Biannual surveys are conducted to monitor all known infestations and to ensure new outbreaks are identified.

Background

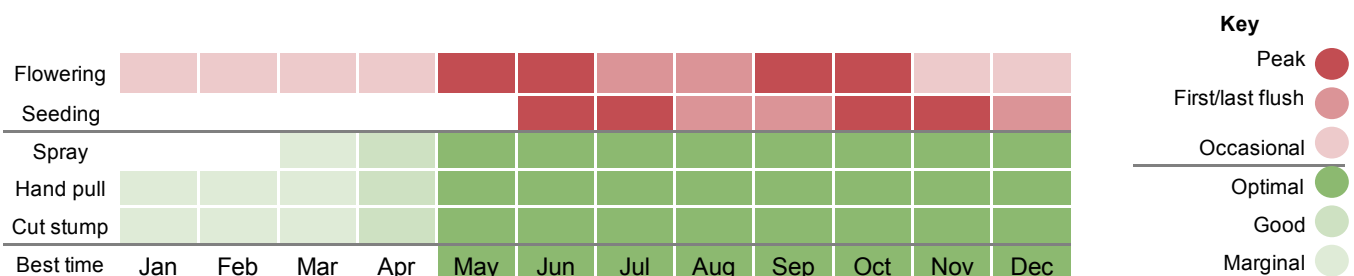
Miconia is a serious weed in Tahiti and Hawaii, where it forms dense thickets in rainforests and displaces native flora and fauna. Miconia was initially brought into Australia via botanic gardens, and was sold in some nurseries and markets between 1978 and the mid-1990s. Dispersal to new locations has been mainly via cultivation (gardeners and plant collectors). Fruit-eating birds are the primary mechanism of dispersal into surrounding forests and gardens. Miconia is very shallow rooted and has also been known to cause landslides.

A community education and awareness program is an important part of the eradication program. Managing the risk of spread to new areas through hygiene protocols for impacted nurseries and growers plays an important role in preventing new infestations. Hygiene protocols are also in place for survey and control operations.

A national eradication program is underway and is targeting survey, control and monitoring of all known infestations. Bi-annual surveys are conducted to monitor known infestations, ensure new outbreaks are identified and plants do not produce seed.

Birds can disperse the small seeds many hundreds of metres and the seeds can remain viable for at least 16 years. Areas where mature plants have occurred need to remain undisturbed.

Control calendar



For more information on using this biosecurity action plan fact sheet, and further information on control tools, refer to the [Tablelands Biosecurity Plan](#) available at trc.qld.gov.au and customer service centres.

1300 362 242 (24hr Customer Service)

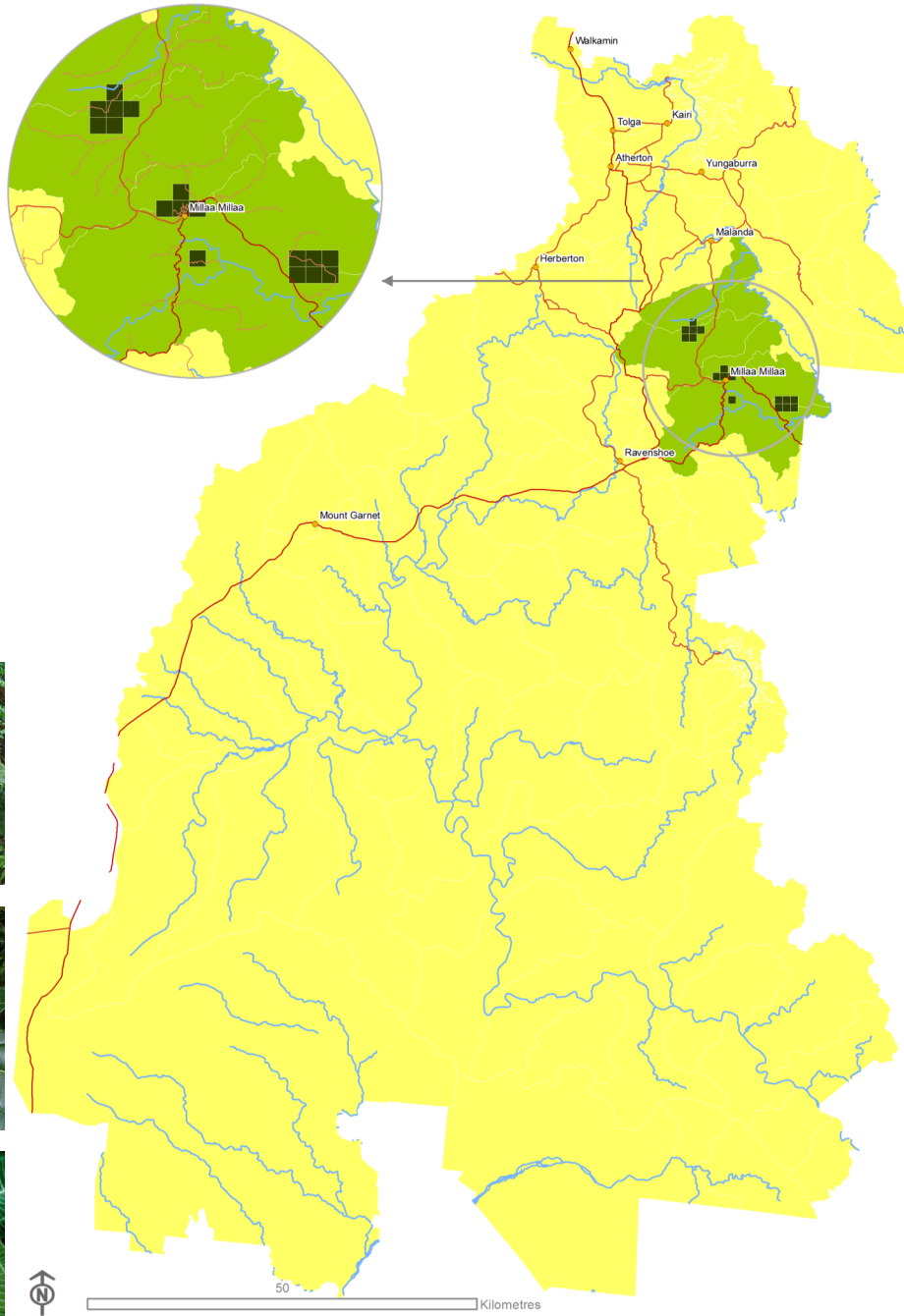
info@trc.qld.gov.au

www.trc.qld.gov.au

PO Box 573, Atherton QLD 4883

Tablelands Regional Council

Customer Service Centres in Atherton, Herberton, Malanda & Ravenshoe



Woody

Terrestrial

Perennial

Biosecurity Act Restricted matter category

2
Must be reported

3
Do not distribute

4
Do not move

5
Do not keep

6
Do not feed

Control



Spread



What is my biosecurity obligation?

In the prevention zone

Miconia is the target of the National, cost-shared Tropical Weeds Eradication Program and its control locally is a high priority.

Landholders are required to immediately report suspected infestations to Biosecurity Queensland on 13 25 23. Refer to the biosecurity programs of the Tropical Weed Eradication Program for more information.

In the eradication zone

If you have an active infestation on your property you can assist the survey and control team by maintaining property access, and ensuring you do not move soil or plant material from the infestation area.

Landholders are required to immediately report suspected infestations to Biosecurity Queensland on 13 25 23. Refer to the biosecurity programs of the Tropical Weed Eradication Program for more information.